



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES
BUREAU OF GENERAL SERVICES
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To: The Joint Standing Committees on State and Local Government and on Utilities and Energy

From: Martha Freeman, Director, State Planning Office, & Chair, Energy Resources Council
Chip Gavin, Director, Bureau of General Services

cc: Rebecca Wyke, Commissioner, Department of Administrative and Financial Services
John Kerry, Director, Office of Energy Independence and Security
Sue Inches, Director of Policy, State Planning Office
William Leet, Director, Division of Leased Space

Date: December, 2007

Re: Report pursuant to Public Law 2007, Chapter 52

This report regarding renewable energy use at facilities leased for the operation of state services and programs is being provided pursuant to Maine Public Law 2007, Chapter 52, to the Joint Standing Committees on Utilities and Energy and on State and Local Government.

The Bureau of General Services has made and continues to make considerable efforts to reduce energy use and to use renewable energy, including in the state-owned buildings it operates. For example, bio-diesel fuel is routinely used on the Capitol campus. The electricity used in all state buildings is 100 percent renewable through Maine-based renewable energy credits. Energy efficient lighting is used to conserve electricity. Other energy conservation projects are implemented on an ongoing basis. The Bureau also has submitted legislation for consideration in the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature to increase the state's energy independence by exploring the options for the on-site generation of electricity at certain state facilities. There are other noteworthy projects, many of which are referenced or further described in the other "green" reports produced pursuant to other sections of law or by the other actions of various agencies and departments, including by the Energy Resources Council.

For its part, Maine Public Law 2007, Chapter 52, sought to expand green energy efforts into space leased by the state.

Such real property leases by law are held and administered by the Bureau of General Services. The key current energy practice in the area of leased space is the implementation of a set of energy efficiency standards first established by the Bureau in 2002 and updated since then from time-to-time. Those standards run approximately 17 pages so are not attached here in the interest of efficient reporting, but could readily be made available to any Committee member who wanted a copy. The Bureau will be continuing and making new efforts in the coming years to conserve energy in leased space.

Those efforts notwithstanding, the Bureau recognizes that energy will continue to be necessary for normal operations. The Bureau intends to seek to increase by 10 percent from 2007 levels, once those levels are established, the amount of electricity and heating energy used in leased space which comes from renewable sources. The Bureau will do this by updating existing energy standards to be implemented in new leases, by encouraging landlords with current or renewing leases to use energy from renewable resources, by investigating the options for direct procurement of renewable energy by the state for use in leased space, and by meeting with leased space stakeholders to suggest, refine and implement these and other improvements. The Bureau will continue these steps in 2008 and will implement the new leased space energy standards by 2010.

No new statutory authority appears necessary to pursue this effort and no legislation is being requested at this time. Please feel free to contact us if you would like any additional information.